

b.) Amendments to the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) An orally consumable solid film adapted to adhere to and dissolve in a mouth of a consumer, wherein said solid film comprises at least one water soluble polymer, and an absorption complex of at least one pharmaceutically active agent and at least one taste masking agent, wherein said pharmaceutically active agent is present at a ratio to said taste masking agent of 1:3 to 3:1.

2. (Currently Amended) The consumable solid film according to claim 1, wherein said ~~at least one~~ water soluble polymer is a ~~member~~ selected from the group consisting of pullulan, ~~hydroxypropylmethyl~~ hydroxypropylmethyl cellulose, hydroxyethyl cellulose, hydroxypropyl cellulose, polyvinyl pyrrolidone, carboxymethyl cellulose, polyvinyl alcohol, sodium alginate, polyethylene glycol, tragacanth gum, guar gum, acacia gum, arabic gum, polyacrylic acid, methylmethacrylate copolymer, carboxyvinyl polymer, amylose, high amylose starch, hydroxypropylated high amylose starch, dextrin, pectin, chitin, chitosan, levan, elsinan, collagen, gelatin, zein, gluten, soy protein isolate, whey protein isolate, casein and mixtures thereof.

3. (Currently Amended) The consumable solid film according to claim 2, wherein said ~~at least one~~ water soluble polymer is pullulan.

4. (Currently Amended) The consumable solid film according to claim

1, wherein said ~~at least one~~ pharmaceutically active agent is a ~~member~~ selected from the group consisting of antimicrobial agents, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory agents, antitussives, decongestants, anti-histamines, expectorants, anti-diaherals, H₂-antagonists, proton pump inhibitors, central nervous system agents, analgesics and mixtures thereof.

5. (Currently Amended) The consumable solid film according to claim 4, wherein the antimicrobial agent is a ~~member~~ selected from the group consisting of triclosan, cetyl pyridium chloride, domiphen bromide, quaternary ammonium salts, zinc compounds, sanguinarine, fluorides, alexidine, octonidine, EDTA and mixtures thereof.

6. (Currently Amended) The consumable solid film according to claim 4, wherein the non-steroidal anti-inflammatory agent is a ~~member~~ selected from the group consisting of aspirin, acetaminophen, ibuprofen, diflunisal, fenoprofen calcium, naproxen, tolmetin sodium, indomethacin, and mixtures thereof.

7. (Currently Amended) The consumable solid film according to claim 4, wherein the antitussive is a ~~member~~ selected from the group consisting of benzonatate, caramiphen edisylate, dextromethorphan, chlorpheniramine, diphenhydramine, salts thereof and mixtures thereof.

8. (Currently Amended) The consumable solid film according to claim 4, wherein the decongestant is selected from the group consisting of pseudoephedrine,

phenylephrine, phenylpropanolamine, salts thereof and mixtures thereof.

9. (Currently Amended) The consumable solid film according to claim 4, wherein the anti-histamine is selected from the group consisting of brompheniramine maleate, chlorpheniramine maleate, carbinoxamine maleate, clemastine fumarate, dexchlorpheniramine maleate, diphenhydramine hydrochloride, diphenhydramine citrate, diphenylpyraline hydrochloride, doxylamine succinate, promethazine hydrochloride, pyrilamine maleate, tripeleminamine citrate, triprolidine hydrochloride and mixtures thereof.

10. (Currently Amended) The consumable solid film according to claim 4, wherein the expectorant is selected from the group consisting of guaifenesin, ipecac, potassium iodide, terpin hydrate and mixtures thereof.

11. (Currently Amended) The consumable solid film according to claim 4, wherein the anti-diarrheal is loperamide.

12. (Currently Amended) The consumable solid film according to claim 4, wherein the H₂-antagonist is selected from the group consisting of famotidine, ranitidine and mixtures thereof.

13. (Currently Amended) The consumable solid film according to claim 4, wherein the proton pump inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of omeprazole,

lansoprazole, and mixtures thereof.

14. (Currently Amended) The consumable solid film according to claim 1, wherein the ~~at least one~~ taste masking agent is an ion exchange resin and said pharmaceutically active agent provides from about 40 wt% to about 60 wt% of said absorption complex.

15. (Currently Amended) The consumable solid film according to claim 14, wherein the ion exchange resin is a sulfonated polymer comprising polystyrene cross-linked with divinylbenzene.

16. (Currently Amended) The consumable solid film according to claim 14, wherein the ion exchange resin is a sulfonated polymer comprising polystyrene cross-linked with 8% of divinylbenzene, with an ion exchange capacity of about 4.5 to 5.5 meq/g of dry resin (H⁺-form).

17. (Currently Amended) The consumable solid film according to claim 16, wherein the ion exchange resin ~~has~~ comprises irregularly-shaped particles ranging in size from about 47 to about 149 micrometers.

18. (Currently Amended) The consumable solid film according to claim 16, wherein the ion exchange resin ~~has~~ comprises spherical particles ranging in size from

about 45 to about 150 micrometers.

19. (Currently Amended) The consumable solid film according to claim 14, wherein the ion exchange resin ~~is a polymer composed of~~ comprises polystyrene cross-linked with 8% of divinylbenzene ~~and~~ functionalized with a quaternary ammonium group, ~~and wherein an exchange capacity of said ion exchange resin is~~ having an exchange capacity normally within a range of about 3 to about 4 meq/g of dry ion exchange resin.

20. (Currently Amended) The consumable solid film according to claim 1, wherein the ~~at least one~~ taste masking agent is magnesium trisilicate and said pharmaceutically active agent provides from about 40 wt% to about 60 wt% of said absorption complex.

21. (Currently Amended) The consumable solid film solid according to claim 1, wherein said ~~at least one~~ water soluble polymer is pullulan, said ~~at least one~~ pharmaceutically active agent is dextromethorphan, ~~and said at least one~~ taste masking agent is a sulfonated polymer ion exchange resin comprising polystyrene cross-linked with divinylbenzene and said pharmaceutically active agent provides from about 40 wt% to about 60 wt% of said absorption complex.

22. (Currently Amended) The consumable solid film according to claim 21, ~~wherein said~~ comprising pullulan ~~is present~~ in an amount of about 40 to about 80 wt%

of said film, ~~said~~ dextromethorphan is ~~present~~ in an amount of about 5 to about 40 wt% of said film, ~~said~~ and sulfonated polymer ion exchange resin is ~~present~~ in an amount of about 5 to about 40 wt% of said film, ~~and a ratio of said dextromethorphan to said sulfonated polymer ion exchange resin is 1:3 to 3:1.~~

Claim 23. (Cancelled)

Claim 24. (Cancelled)

25. (Currently Amended) A method for preparing the consumable solid film of claim 1, said method comprising:

dissolving the water-soluble ~~ingredients~~ polymer in water to provide an aqueous solution;

mixing ~~at least one~~ water soluble film former and ~~at least one~~ stabilizing agent to provide a solid-film forming ~~film-forming~~ mixture;

combining said solid-film forming ~~film-forming~~ mixture and said aqueous solution to provide a hydrated polymer gel;

mixing oils to form an oil mixture;

~~adding~~ admixing said oil mixture ~~to~~ and said hydrated polymer gel ~~and mixing~~ to provide a uniform gel, said uniform gel comprising said pharmaceutically active agent and said taste masking agent;

casting the uniform gel on a substrate; and

drying the cast gel to provide said solid film.

26. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 25, wherein said ~~at least one~~ aqueous solution comprises both said pharmaceutically active agent and said ~~at least one~~ taste masking agent ~~are incorporated into said aqueous solution or into said uniform gel.~~

27. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 25, wherein said ~~at least one~~ taste masking agent is an ion exchange resin, and said ~~at least one~~ pharmaceutically active agent is sorbed to said ion exchange resin without separating ion exchanged pharmaceutically active agent from unexchanged agent and counter ion salts.

28. (Currently Amended) An orally consumable solid film adapted to adhere to and dissolve in a mouth of a consumer, wherein said solid film comprises at least one water soluble polymer, at least one pharmaceutically active agent and at least one ion exchange resin taste masking agent, wherein said ~~at least one taste masking agent comprises an ion exchange resin, and wherein said~~ taste masking agent is in present at a weight ratio to said pharmaceutically active agent of about 2:1 to about 1:2.

29. (Currently Amended) The consumable solid film according to claim 28, wherein said the ratio of taste masking agent to pharmaceutically active agent is about 1:1.

30. (Currently Amended) An orally consumable solid film adapted to adhere to and dissolve in a mouth of a consumer, wherein said solid film comprises at least one water soluble polymer, at least one pharmaceutically active agent and an ion exchange resin; wherein said ion exchange resin is in present at a weight ratio to said pharmaceutically active agent of about 2:1 to about 1:2.

31. (Currently Amended) The consumable solid film according to claim 30, wherein ~~said~~ the ratio of taste masking agent to pharmaceutically active agent is about 1:1.

32. (Currently Amended) An orally consumable solid film adapted to adhere to and dissolve in a mouth of a consumer, wherein said solid film comprises at least one water soluble polymer, at least one pharmaceutically active agent and at least one taste masking agent, wherein said ~~at least one~~ taste masking agent is selected from the group consisting of a magnesium trisilicate, acrylic copolymers, cellulose ethers, cellulose, ethyl cellulose and combinations thereof, said pharmaceutically active agent being present at a ratio to said taste masking agent of 1:3 to 3:1.

33. (New) The consumable film according to claim 22, wherein pullulan is present in said solid film in an amount of about 2 to about 6 mg/cm², dextromethorphan is present in said solid film in an amount of about 1.4 to about 2 mg/cm², and sulfonated

polymer ion exchange resin is present in said solid film in an amount of about 1.4 to about 2 mg/cm².

34. (New) The consumable solid film according to claims 22 or 33, further comprising:

about 0.01 to about 5 w% of at least one stabilizing agent;

about 0.001 to about 0.1 wt% of at least one of at least one coloring agent;

about 0.01 to about 70 w% water;

about 0.1 to about 15 wt% of at least one sweetening agent;

about 0.1 to about 15 w% of at least one flavoring agent;

about 0.1 to about 4 wt% of at least one cooling agent;

about 0.1 to about 5 wt% of at least one surfactant;

about 0.1 to about 12 wt% of a triglyceride;

about 0.001 to about 5 wt% of a preservative;

about 0.01 to about 5 wt% of a polyethylene oxide compound; and

about 1 to about 20 wt% of propylene glycol.